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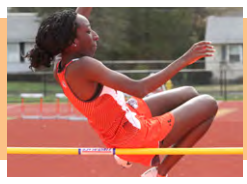

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AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS

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SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH

Lemanski promoted from principal to supt.

AHS leader chosen ahead of Sapelli's current assistant

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

Agawam High School Principal Steve Lemanski will have a new title come July 1: superintendent. He edged out Allison LeClair, the district's assistant superintendent, in the School Committee's search for a successor to retiring School Superintendent William Sapelli.

The vote at a special School Committee meeting last Thursday night was unanimous. Committee members said they based their decision primarily on responses Lemanski and LeClair gave during their interviews, as well as input from school staff, students and the public. The committee also relied on reviews of references, qualifications and experience.

The two finalists, who have been vying to replace Sapelli when he retires June 30, were evaluated and ranked using numerical points, and they were extremely close. The difference was a point or two in most areas. The overall point total gave Lemanski 438 points and LeClair 388 points.

Following the vote, a call was placed to notify both finalists; the hiring will be officially announced at the board's May 9 meeting. Lemanski, who will start his new job July 1, pending contract negotiations, said he was "ecstatic" about the decision.

"When the 7-0 vote was shared, I was truly pleased," added the South Hadley resident, who has served as principal at AHS since 2007. "Throughout the process, I wanted the School Committee to see me as who I am as a leader. For all of them to choose me, their confidence in me helps my confidence in moving forward together with them."

Committee members said it was an agonizing decision.

"Both are highly qualified, both in different ways," said Diane Juzba. "Both would bring something great to this school system."

Carmino Mineo called it the most difficult decision he's ever made — both on the committee and as an adult.

LEMANSKI | page 6

The School Committee last week unanimously selected Steve Lemanski, currently the high school principal, as Agawam's new school superintendent. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

The final pieces are waiting to be installed at the new Wade Park playground on Franklin Street in Feeding Hills. According to Parks and Recreation Director Christopher Sparks, the town is planning to lay the rubber surfacing this week. The playscape was installed last year. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

CITY COUNCIL

Solar zoning in legal review

By Michael J. Ballway
mballway@turley.com

City Councilors will wait another two weeks to digest the advice of their attorneys before voting on a solar zoning ordinance for Agawam.

The council voted on May 1 to continue its public hearing on the proposed ordinance to its next meeting, May 15, after receiving legal advice just minutes before the meeting. The council had asked, several weeks ago, for a report on what zoning restrictions would be considered reasonable and what other towns' zoning codes say about large, ground-mounted solar arrays.

Councilors seemed to agree on the need for a law to clarify where solar can be sited. The town's zoning code is currently silent on the matter.

"Zoning laws aren't meant to be confusing," said City Councilor Robert Rossi. "They need to be predictable. Arbitrary leads to abuse."

The original text of the proposed ordinance would restrict large solar arrays to industrial zones only, and provide for 40-foot setbacks to the property line. The Planning Board recommended allowing solar farms in agricultural zones, but requiring a special permit and a 75-foot setback.

The town's Law Department did not respond to a request for a copy of the memorandum discussed Monday in time for the Agawam Advertiser News' deadline.

SOLAR | page 6

URBAN REDEVELOPMENT

Mayor, councilor collide on how to handle blight

By Michael J. Ballway
mballway@turley.com

Whatever they choose to call it, Mayor Richard Cohen and City Council President James Cichetti seem to agree that Agawam needs a fresh effort to spur business development in town

They are arguing about everything else, though.

In a Town Hall memorandum and a guest column printed in last week's Agawam Advertiser News, Cichetti blasted the mayor for failing to address blight in town, and suggested that the town establish a redevelopment authority to take over empty buildings.

This week, Cohen characterized Cichetti's rhetoric as election-year grandstanding. Cichetti is widely expected to run for mayor this year. Cohen also said a redevelopment authority is unrealistic.

In a memo dated April 26, the mayor called setting up a redevelopment authority "a lengthy process where certain blighted conditions must exist to establish such an authority." He said those conditions do not exist in Agawam, and the state would probably not approve a redevelopment authority in town.

Though Agawam does have several blighted properties, Cohen said, a redevelopment authority would be appropriate if the town had a large, entirely decaying neighborhood. Instead, the town has scattered vacant buildings and storefronts, and the neighborhood most often cited as a redevelopment target — the Walnut Street Extension and Food Mart area — is home to several small shops and restaurants, even though it may be overshadowed by the vacant Games and Lanes parcel.

Cichetti had derided the mayor's Walnut Street Extension streetscape proposal as a mere cosmetic fix and as a "build it and they will come" project with no guarantee of improving business.

"To say that is decadent and it's decaying, it's atrocious to make that statement by the council president," Cohen said. "It's a vital area. 'Build it and they will come' — they already are coming to that area. Those businesses are viable."

Furthermore, Cohen said, a redevelopment authority — like any developer — couldn't do any-

BLIGHT | page 6

School board approves $43.6M budget, a 3% increase for '18

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

The School Committee approved the final 2017-18 school budget following an April 25 public hearing at which no residents spoke about the budget, either favorably or unfavorably.

Six committee members voted in favor of the budget while Mayor Richard Cohen, who serves as chairman, voted "present." The vote approved a $43.6 million budget that is identical to the preliminary budget School Superintendent William Sapelli presented to the committee two weeks earlier.

Sapelli is retiring on June 30, the day before the new budget becomes effective, if approved by the City Council, meaning his sixth and final budget as superintendent will be implemented by soon-to-be superintendent Steve Lemanski, who will start his new job July 1. Lemanski is currently the high school principal.

The fiscal 2018 budget maintains all existing programs and services from the fiscal 2017 budget. There are no staff reductions, no cuts to programs, no increase in existing fees and no new or additional fees.

This budget includes about $1.4 million in additional "fixed costs," such as contractual salary increases, building-based budget increases, increases in athletic supply costs, and increases to both out-of-district non-special education tuition and special education tuition.

The actual year-to-year increase in the budget, offset by cuts, will be just under $1.3 million. That is a 3.06 percent increase from the current year's $42.3 million budget.

During a brief budget presentation at the start of the hearing, Sapelli said the district continues to respond to "the challenges of educating" Agawam's children. He said one of the biggest challenges is meeting unfunded state and federal mandates while still remaining fiscally responsible.

"We've confronted these challenges and have developed creative, innovative solutions, which we believe will sustain our efforts to provide the children of this district with a quality education," said Sapelli.

Sapelli noted several highlights in the new budget:

• Continues the search for alternate funding sources to reduce district-wide expenses;

• Enhances existing school and safety security by updating safety plans, upgrading and increasing security cameras, installing keyless entry system at all schools, and implementing active shooter training for school staff;

• Provides appropriate technologies to maximize the efficiency of teaching and learning;

• Maintains appropriate student/teacher ratio;

• Recognizes and supports varied learning styles and differences to maximize individual potential;

• Provides quality and affordable in-house professional development for staff.

The school budget now goes to the City Council to be incorporated into the town's fiscal 2018 budget. Copies of the budget can be viewed at the library, the city clerk's office at Town Hall, and at the School Department's central office at the junior high school. It also will be posted on the district website, www.agawampublicschools.org.

Artists' meeting to feature gourd specialist

Ceil Rossi of the Carefree Gourd Gallery will be the May demonstrator for the Agawam Community Artists and Artisans. The meeting is at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 10, in the Community Room of the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St.

Rossi lived in Arizona for almost 30 years, where she discovered the magic of creating art on a hard-shelled gourd. These gourds have a smooth, buttery skin with varying shapes and are like working on wood and canvas at the same time. Instead of being a flat canvas, the gourd is three-dimensional and can be carved, wood-burned and cut into a unique piece of art. At her demonstration, "From Field to Fine Art," Rossi will talk about the art, history and culture of gourds as well as how the gourd contributed to mankind over the centuries and became the oldest cultivated plant on earth. She will bring various types of gourds to show the diversity of this ancient vessel. Also discussed will be the process the gourd undergoes as it is transformed from a newly picked plant into a piece of fine art.

Rossi will also demonstrate various painting and wood-burning techniques, such as how to apply alcohol inks, ink dyes, pebo paint, embossing, and gold foil to the surface of the gourd. She teaches at her home studio in Agawam, at the Farmington Valley Art Center in Avon, Conn., and at other area art centers.

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- Online at www.wesoldieron.org
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Completed applications received by 4:00 pm on June 26th, 2017 will be entered into a lottery for waitlist assignments.

The Lottery to be held at Soldier On's Office 425 North Main Street Building 6 Leeds MA at noon on Tuesday, July 11th

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Help sought in reporting fires at state park

The Friends of Robinson State Park are asking for the public's assistance in stopping illegal and dangerous parties with campfires in the park. According to a statement released this week, this is occurring at the bottom of a hill near a park entrance road off Route 187.

According to the statement, "Most alarming is the fact that two fires were still active when they were discovered, and could have been responsible for very serious damaging fires. This must not continue in the park. If you can help us spread the word that this behavior is very dangerous not only for the park and its structures/resources, but also for the individuals involved, we would appreciate it."

Anyone who discovers any such parties should contact Park Watch at 866-759-2824, the state Environmental Police at 800-632-8075 or the Massachusetts State Police in Springfield at 413 - 736-8390. For emergency situations, call 911.

Plant sale at Agawam Senior Center Tues.

The Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St., will host a Mother's Day Plant Sale on Tuesday, May 9, starting at 9 a.m. Items for sale will include hanging baskets for $18 and tomato plants for $12, while supplies last. Only cash will be accepted.

Boutique fundraiser to benefit Relay for Life

A "LuLaRoe Pop-up Boutique" fundraiser, sponsored by Team Clark, will take place Friday, May 12, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the School Street Park pavilion. Proceeds from this event will benefit Relay for Life of Agawam. Three different LuLaRoe vendors will be at this event. All are welcome. The pavilion is near the Corey Street entrance to School Street Park in Agawam.

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Field day for AHS

Former Agawam High School Athletic Director Louis Conte, center, stands with his family during Sunday's dedication ceremony for the new athletic facilities at AHS. The new running track is named for Conte, though the surrounding stadium retains the name Harmon Smith Field, honoring another former AHS athletic director. SUBMITTED PHOTOS

School Superintendent William Sapelli speaks during the April 30 dedication ceremony. The $7.95 million athletic facility project includes several resurfaced fields and playing courts, along with renovations to the boys and girls locker rooms, team rooms and restrooms for Title IX compliance.

Attendees at the dedication ceremony included, from left, School Committee members Brian Burbank, Wendy Rua and Anthony Bonavita, and City Councilor Donald Rheault. The ceremony was moved indoors because of inclement weather.

State Sen. Donald Humason, left, and state Rep. Nicholas Boldyga, center, shared remarks at the ceremony, as did Mike Knapik, a former state senator who now leads Gov. Charlie Baker's office in Western Massachusetts.

Haiku art featured in May at library gallery

Throughout the month of May, the Agawam Public Library will exhibit the unique art of Feeding Hills resident Alison Johnson. Haiku Art features a series of poems by Johnson. Haiku is a form of Japanese poetry consisting of three lines. The first line has five syllables, the second line has seven syllables, and the third line has five syllables. Haikus generally relate to nature or the human condition.

Johnson has displayed her poetry on a collage silhouette that reflects each poem. The text background is from old history books, giving an added layer of depth to each piece. She is a first grade teacher in East Longmeadow and lives with her husband, Vinnie, and her daughter, Nicole, in Feeding Hills. Johnson has won awards for her art both locally and internationally.

The library welcomes visitors Mondays through Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Fridays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Anyone interested in displaying artwork at the library should contact contact Adult Services Librarian Cher Collins at 413-789-1550, ext. 8851, or ccollins@agawamlibrary.org. The library is at 750 Cooper St., Agawam.

Garden Club to meet Tuesday

The Agawam Garden Club will meet Tuesday, May 9, at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by a presentation by guest speaker Bob Whitney, at 7 p.m. A flower arrangement created by Whitney will be raffled off. All are welcome.

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413-746-9800
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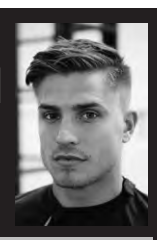
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Opinion

OUR VIEW

Super choice, Mr. Lemanski

From the start of the "internal-external" superintendent search, it was clear that Steve Lemanski had at least a share of the inside track — and there's nothing wrong with that.

Lemanski, after all, had very publicly looked at superintendent posts in other communities before making the decision to remain as principal at Agawam High School. It was no surprise when he applied to succeed his current boss, William Sapelli, who will retire at the end of June.

It was also not much of a surprise when Allison LeClair, the well-respected current assistant superintendent, also applied for the job. In fact, perhaps the only surprise was that with two qualified in-house candidates, the School Committee went through the trouble of posting the position externally at all.

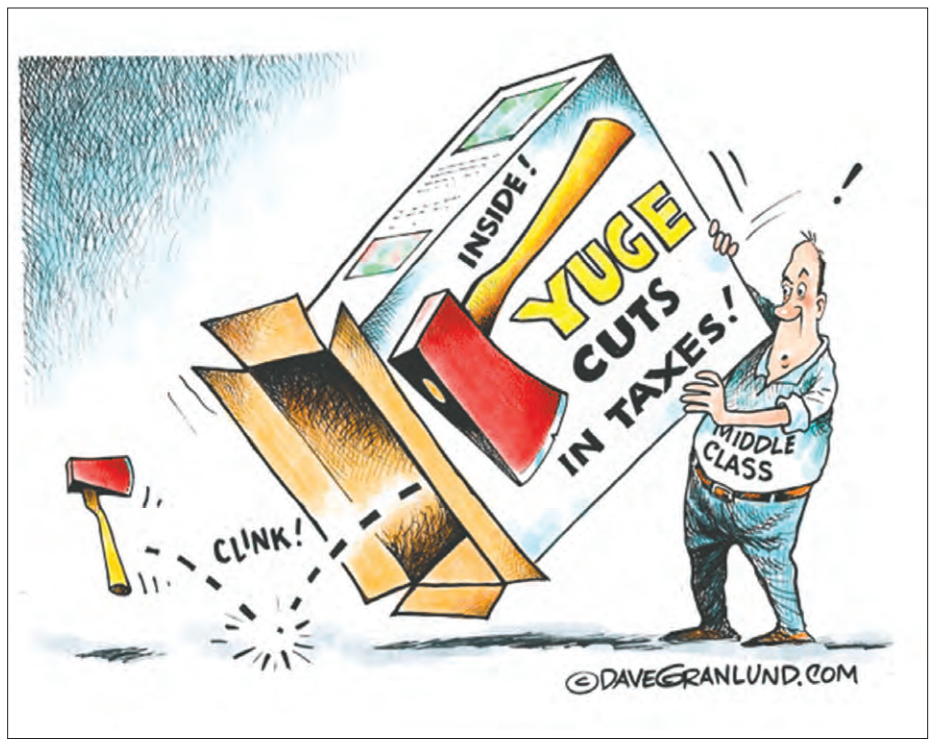
In a school system where most folks seem satisfied with the way things are going, there's a lot to be said for hiring from within. For Lemanski, who has spent more than a decade building personal relationships at AHS and with his new colleagues in the central office, Agawam isn't just another career stop where he can serve three or five years while checking off boxes on his resume to market himself for a "big prize" job at a higher-paying urban or wealthy district.

It also guarantees that the new superintendent can hit the ground running, without having to spend time learning the names and quirks of all the School Committee members, school administrators and other movers-and-shakers around town. And in broad strokes, he knows the entire school district and the entire town itself, which means he's less likely than an outsider to be taken by surprise on his first year on the job — less likely to misjudge the tenor of a debate, less likely to go out on a limb for a policy or spending plan that flops with parents and taxpayers, less likely to unknowingly offend a key constituency or tradition in town. Having worked under the current administration, Lemanski will know exactly what his colleagues have come to expect from a leader, and will enter the office with well-developed opinions on how he can improve.

There's also something to be said for breaking with the past practice of promoting the assistant superintendent to the top job. There's no reason to believe LeClair would have done a bad job, but giving the position to a person with such recent building administration experience will bring a slightly different perspective to the office. Parents, teachers and students, particularly at the high school level, can be confident that the new superintendent understands the specific challenges in the classroom in the late 2010s.

So one by one, all the external candidates were eliminated until just the two internal finalists remained. In choosing a known quantity, the School Committee can expect a seamless transition to the new administration, and the town's parents and taxpayers can expect a steady, confident, knowledgeable hand guiding the town's largest department.

Tell us what you think. Send letters to the editor to aan@turley.com.



YESTERDAY'S HOMETOWN NEWS

Gorgeous George Paro

The class of 1951 recently lost their classmate George Paro, who passed away on April 17. George was a Korean War Army veteran who grew up on Maple Street in North Agawam.

Walt Willard

Known to his friends as Pop, he also had a nickname of "Gorgeous George," probably because he reminded people of the professional wrestler Gorgeous George. You see, AHS had a wrestling team back in 1949, '50 and '51. Pop Paro can be seen in the team picture in his yearbook. Since the wrestlers in the picture don't have shirts on, it is easy to tell which ones were the most muscular. Pop looks the most rugged on the team. Pop's dad, Homer, was a plumber. Maybe Pop got his muscles from working with his father.

George Paro

The '51 Sachem tells how the wrestling team, coached by Springfield College grads Larry Mulvaney and Harm Smith, swamped the Wilbraham Academy team twice and narrowly lost to the Springfield College freshman team, but goes on to say, "A serious injury to one of the squad members caused the cancellation of the remaining bouts. ..." That was when Norm Frisbie got a broken back at practice.

That injury was why Superintendent James Clark was not a fan of the sport and pretty much why we did not get wrestling back until Mr. Clark retired. Bill Hoye '52 and Norm Marieb '52, who both wrestled back then, were in town in October 2016 to attend the Hall of Fame banquet in the gym on Cooper Street. Remember, they wrestled at the old high school, probably in the girls gym, since the basketball team was using the boys gym.

An estate sale in Southwick earlier this month started a story which will probably be written about when I get a few more answers. For a dollar, I purchased a copy of an AHS 1937 yearbook. Another dollar got me a picture of a couple, possibly their wedding picture. The man was wearing a Navy uniform and the estate's people thought that he was a Pearl Harbor survivor but didn't know his name. That explained the Time magazine I also bought, that was the issue featuring the 50th anniversary of that catastrophe.

Later that day, I looked through the '37 yearbook and tried to match the picture to one of the seniors. One boy looked a lot like the man in the Navy uniform. Since Judge Walsh was a '37, the next step was to call him. Unfortunately, he did not know which classmates lived in Southwick. I was stuck.

The next day, I had to go to Southwick again, so I returned to the estate sale for a clue. I found a postcard from Greece, addressed to Mr. William Warriner in the condo of the estate sale. William is in the '37 yearbook and coincidentally is right below William Walsh.

Eager to find out the Pearl Harbor possibility, I called another Warriner in the phonebook. A woman answered. Although she was not related, she knows someone at church who knows the family. She will try to get me a phone number of William Warriner's son.

Two days later, the Realtor whose card was on the kitchen counter called and said she would pass on my name and number to the family. The results of this search may be in a future column. Also possible, was Mrs. Warriner a Brownie? Call me if you can help.

Walt Willard went to AHS and taught math there for 16 years. He can be reached at 413-786-7924. Call him. Walt loves your feedback and any and all information or tidbits you can offer.

The photos of Ann Abbey, left, and Christina Liberatore in the last edition of Yesterday's Hometown News (Agawam Advertiser News, April 20, page 4) came out grainy in print. Walt has scanned them again on a new printer.

Let us know

The Agawam Advertiser News, your community newspaper, welcomes letters, submissions, photographs and news tips from residents of Agawam and Feeding Hills.

The best way to contact us is by telephone, 413-786-7747, or email, aan@turley.com.

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Letters to the Editor

Council vote on CPA is about democracy

At the request of many of our town taxpayers, I, along with councilors Paul Cavallo, Cecilia Calabrese, Richard Theroux and Anthony Suffriti, am sponsoring a resolution to revoke acceptance of M.G.L. Chapter 44B, sections 3 through 7 inclusive, the Community Preservation Act. We are not opposing the CPA. This is the only legal way to honor the people's request to put CPA in the ballot in this November's election.

A "yes" vote to this resolution by the City Councilors will allow the voters to exercise their right and vote to revoke or continue the CPA 1 percent surcharge. A "no" vote by the City Councilors will deny the voters their right to vote supporting or opposing the 1 percent surcharge, which on average is about $35 per year.

Any time after the expiration of five years since it has been accepted, the people have their right to revoke the CPA in the same manner as it was adopted. We have had this surcharge for 15 years. About five years ago, the majority of the council voted against the people's wishes to put this on the ballot. I hope this time the council votes "yes" to this resolution to allow the people to vote. That's democracy!

In June 2011, the Agawam City Council received a petition with about 2,500 of our town's registered voters to put CPA on a ballot to be voted on. Unfortunately, due to a technicality, the petition was ruled by the city solicitor to be invalid and was denied.

Agawam taxpayers are paying the 1 percent surcharge each year, and the state reimbursement is about 20 cents (instead of matching dollar-to-dollar, as was done when it was first adopted). Today we have $2,234,244.99 reserve accounts to be used for future projects. By October, the CPA account will rise to $2,764,244.99. If the voters of Agawam vote to repeal the surcharge, the CPA Committee would remain in place to oversee the remaining fund balance.

This resolution does not reflect our views for or against the CPA. We accomplish so many great things for Agawam and I was a strong supporter from day one, and still support the CPA. This time, as an elected official, I have the responsibility and it is my duty to listen to people's voices, and respect and honor their requests to put the CPA on the ballot for a vote. This is the democratic way.

George Bitzas
Agawam City Councilor

'Dash for the Past' a huge success thanks to many

On Saturday, April 29, the Agawam Historical Association held the "Dash for the Past" 5K Foot Race and Family Fun Walk at School Street Park. Thanks to the over 70 participants, sponsors and many volunteers, it was a huge success.

I would like to thank the corporate sponsors — OMG Inc., Sarat Ford, Budget Cabinet Sales, Commercial Scale & Balance, Ayer Realty, Quality Auto Care, Easthampton Savings and Longo Carpet Cleaners — for their generous donations. Thank you, also, to the in-kind sponsors — CHH Engraving, Feeding Hills Wellness Center, Freedom Credit Union, Geissler's Supermarket, Giovanni's Bakery, Salon Tres Chic, Six Flags of New England, Valenti's Restaurant, and Cecco Design. A special thanks to Paul Sawyer for the great music and his sound equipment.

I could not have accomplished this fundraising event without the support of my family and my committee, Marylyn Sullivan, Katy Krause, Carol Miller and Sue Scantlen.

Grace L. Tilden, event organizer
Agawam Historical Association

Tables available for May 13 tag sale

St. Martha's Guild at Sacred Heart Church will hold its annual Tag, Bake and Plant Sale Saturday, May 13, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Parish Center, 1065 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. A light breakfast and lunch menu will be available at the event.

Tables are available for rent at a cost of $25 each. To obtain a registration form, go to the Parish Center. For more information, call Joanne at 413-786-7919 or email jjcappa@aol.com.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE AGENDA

Roberta G. Doering School
68 Main St.
Tuesday, May 9 – 7 p.m.

1. Call to order
2. Executive session — Contract negotiation — 6 p.m.
3. Moment of silence
4. Roll call of attendance
5. Regular meeting – 7 p.m.
6. Citizen's Speak Time
7. Highlights on Education:
a. Public Service Announcement winner Jake Wieners
8. Superintendent's Notes
9. Student Advisory Committee representative update
10. Unfinished business: None
11. Business meeting
a. Routine matters
1) Approval of minutes
2) Calendar/Correspondence
b. Warrants/Transfers
c. Reports:
1). Scheduled reports:
* Curriculum Writing/Delivery (paper report)
2) Subcommittee updates
12. New business:
a. SCR-17-06 — Approval to name the new AHS baseball field after Gerald Smith
b. SCR-17-07 — Approval of continued participation in the School Choice program
c. SCR-17-08 — Acceptance of $1,000 donation from CDA Roofing for safety programs and equipment
13. Personnel:
a. New superintendent of schools announcement
14. Any other items that may legally come before the committee
15. Adjournment

Please recycle this newspaper

DEATH NOTICES

Argiro, Rose
Died April 30
Funeral May 5
Agawam Funeral Home

Briggs, Beverly A.
Died April 25
Funeral April 28
West Springfield Curran-Jones
Funeral Home

Curley, David P., Jr.
Died April 18
Memorial service to be announced
Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home and Cremation
Agawam

Melloni, Mary C.
Died April 25
Funeral April 29
Colonial Forastiere Family Funeral Home
Agawam

Sinico, Norma F.
Died April 27
Private funeral
Agawam Funeral Home

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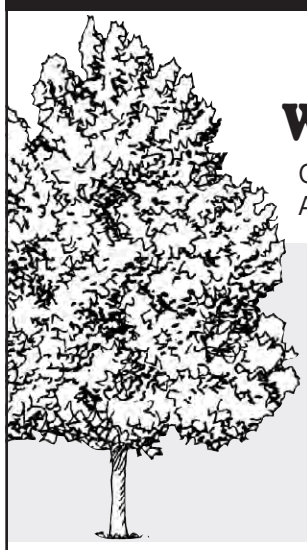
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The vacant Games and Lanes is at the center of the battle between Mayor Richard Cohen and City Council President James Cichetti over how to handle blighted business properties in Agawam. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

BLIGHT from page 1

thing without money. West Springfield was able to secure a federal grant, but Agawam, "a very fiscally strong community," likely wouldn't, Cohen said.

"Who's going to fund the redevelopment authority?" Cohen asked. "Is the town going to fund it with taxpayer dollars? Are we eligible for a brownfield grant? No. Cities are getting less and less brownfield grants and private developers are getting more."

He noted that the City Council last month rejected his plan to spend $5.61 million on streetscape improvements on Walnut Street Extension.

"Now it's going to have to be a lot more difficult" to revitalize that commercial strip, Cohen said. "They have done nothing but criticize, and I've done nothing but help."

Another problem Cohen identified with a redevelopment authority is that when the city takes over a property, it becomes responsible for the contamination on that property. Cohen said he has avoided placing Agawam in that position despite the temptation to take action on Games and Lanes, which has lain vacant for almost two decades.

He believes "100 percent" he will be vindicated soon by developer David Peter, who bought the 2.3-acre lot in April 2016, continued the cleanup process that had stalled under the previous ownership, and has said he expects to redevelop it this year.

Not only is Agawam again collecting property taxes on Games and Lanes, said Cohen, but the taxpayers have only had to spend about $11,000 on testing. A further $50,000, spent on a study, was actually funded by a grant. With a private developer paying for the cleanup, "there's no risk to the town," Cohen said.

This week, Cichetti said the redevelopment authority was just "one way" the town could approach blighted properties.

"If Boston says we don't need it, we don't need it," he said.

Cichetti had also proposed a capital asset planning committee as an alternative to a redevelopment authority. Cohen said he is forming a Business Modernization Committee "to address improvements, enhancements and the modernization of business" in the Morgan-Sullivan Bridge area — including Walnut Street Extension and Ramah Circle, Walnut Street up to Maple Street, Main Street up to Federal Street and Springfield Street as far as O'Brien's Corner.

Cichetti, in an opinion column printed April 27 in the Agawam Advertiser News, had criticized the mayor for not responding to his proposal within a week. Cohen said he received Cichetti's memo on April 19, and it took seven days for "due diligence," consulting with town department heads, attorneys and officials from other cities about the legal requirements for a redevelopment authority.

SOLAR from page 1

Associate Solicitor Stephen Buoniconti noted that Agawam's existing solar farms are in industrial zones — the former Mushy's property off Main Street and a former woodland along the Route 57 expressway at Shoemaker Lane. A third project has been authorized, but not yet built, on a landfill at Bondi's Island. The Planning Board last month approved two more solar farms, both on land owned by Eversource, off South Westfield Street and South West Street in Feeding Hills. The last of these projects is the largest, with 20 acres of panels on what is now agricultural land, and has been fiercely opposed by residents of Kosak Court, which directly abuts it.

Though there aren't any other solar projects in the planning pipeline, Buoniconti said given the amount of farmland and open land still available in town, it's only a matter of time.

"It's not just Eversource," he said. "There are multiple projects that are looking at Agawam. They are watching very closely what is happening in the town of Agawam."

Benjamin Coyle from Bacon Wilson PC of Springfield, who has advised several towns on their solar zoning laws, said the town may have to open more zones to solar projects. He said there isn't much vacant land left in Agawam industrial zones, and the town could be accused of trying to exclude solar developments altogether if it restricts large-scale arrays to a zone where there is no room for them.

On the other hand, Councilor Paul Cavallo warned against allowing solar on too many parcels in town, turning Agawam into "solar farm city." He said other cities and towns should "put up their fair share."

Councilor Gina Letellier said the size and occupancy rate of the zone shouldn't matter.

"I don't think that's our job," she said. "Our job is to say, 'Here's the zone.' I don't think it's our job to rule the market and give them space."

During the public hearing, Agawam resident Rich Joseph asked the council not to hamstring solar power, which has the potential to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels and combat man-made global warming. He shared his own version of the Earth Day motto: "Think globally, act locally and zone accordingly."

Several residents of Kosak Court and Tobacco Farm Road spoke at the hearing, directing their comments at the Eversource project, which they are fighting in court. They said they were in favor of the proposed zoning ordinance, as a means of clarifying the law. The neighbors' lawsuit contends that solar farms are already banned from agricultural zones, because they are power generation facilities, an industrial use, and that the Planning Board acted illegally in granting its approval to Eversource.

Representatives from Eversource also spoke, asking that the council retain the 40-foot setback and that it allow a variety of plants, not just evergreens, as visual screens between solar farms and residential areas.

Coyle added that Agawam should make sure its zoning ordinance includes a demand for sufficient surety bonds to cover the dismantling of all solar facilities when they reach obsolescence, and to handle the maintenance of screening vegetation if the landowner begins to neglect it.

LEMANSKI from page 1

"We're very fortunate to have two highly qualified candidates," he said. "Either one would be a successful school superintendent. It came down to who I think would be the better leader and public face of Agawam's education system."

"This isn't personal. Both are great leaders," said Shelley Borgatti-Reed. She said her decision involved going beyond just the televised interviews and included talking with many different people to avoid overlooking anything about either finalist.

Anthony Bonavita called both "very good managers," but said Lemanski is an "inspirational" leader who "told us what he thought, not what he thought we wanted to hear with a multitude of data." He said Lemanski gave short, concise, and to-the-point-answers, while LeClair provided lots of data.

Not 'another Mr. Sapelli'

Bonavita added that he felt LeClair, who has been assistant superintendent alongside Sapelli since 2012, made too many references to following in Sapelli's footsteps. "I'm not looking for another Mr. Sapelli," he said. "We've had a Mr. Sapelli. I'm looking for our next leader."

While the next leader may have some of Sapelli's qualities, "just saying you work in the footsteps of Mr. Sapelli, frankly, is not enough for me," said Bonavita.

The chairman of the committee's budget and finance subcommittee also said Lemanski gave a "well-presented" answer to a hypothetical "doomsday" budget crisis question. The question concerned a scenario in which he would work with city councilors and committee members to preserve as many programs and staff as possible despite severe budget cuts.

Committee members remarked how well-qualified LeClair was on paper because of her doctorate degree, knowledge of the district's overall budget, and experience in the central office.

But concerns were expressed about LeClair's communication skills and her leadership abilities not being as strong as Lemanski's. "Mr. Lemanski has the leadership qualities now that Dr. LeClair is going to need to develop," said Brian Burbank.

Although Lemanski doesn't have LeClair's academic title or her experience as assistant superintendent, committee members said his other skills will make him a better superintendent. They consistently cited hands-on leadership qualities, strong communication skills, high visibility in the community, and an ability to work with, and advocate for, teachers and students.

Lemanski also got high marks for relentlessly pursuing excellence at AHS, decreasing the dropout rate and increasing the graduation rate.

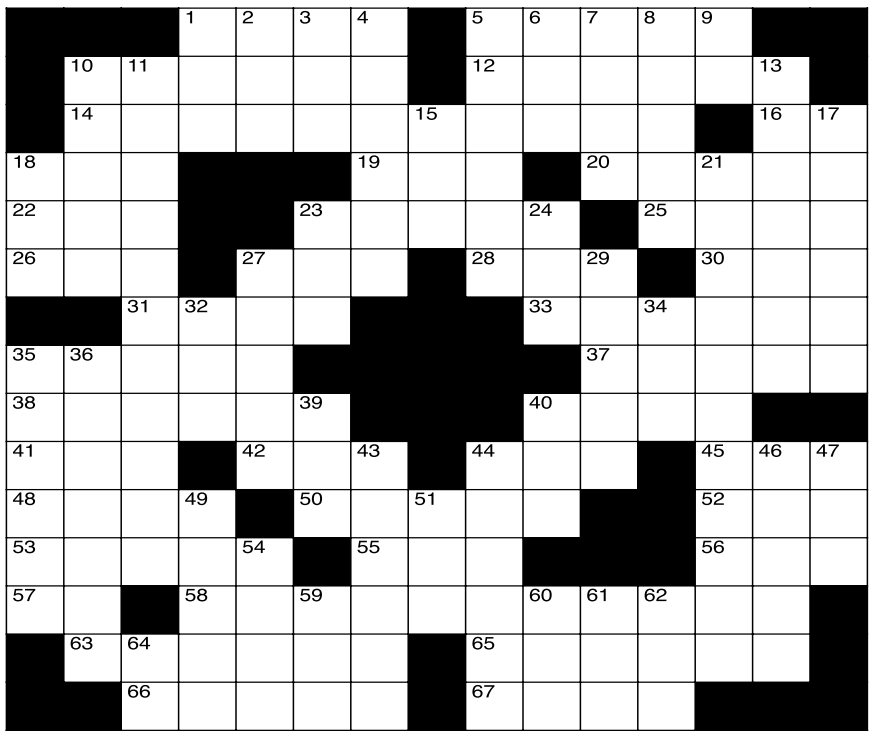
"Mr. Lemanski's leadership is about building community and trust. He doesn't lead from an ivory tower," said Wendy Rua. She said he "sees the bigger picture" and "will roll up his sleeves and navigate outside the box" to help students. Rua added that Lemanski may not have all the job skills, "but job skills can be learned. People skills can't."

Mayor Richard Cohen, who chairs the School Committee, called the process to select a new superintendent an "arduous task" taken very seriously by the committee. He said it was clear from start to finish that the two internal candidates had very opposite styles of leadership — one leading from the top down, and the other from the bottom up.

"It comes down to who is going to move the district forward," said Cohen. "Steve's leadership skills will keep us moving forward."

This is the second time in a little over a year that Lemanski has been offered a superintendent of schools job. In December 2015, the AHS principal was chosen by the School Committee in Granby, Mass., for that school district's top job. He ended up not taking the job after contract negotiations broke down. He said at the time that his career goal was to become a superintendent, but he was only applying in select districts where he thought he would have a good fit. He had also applied for the superintendent job in South Hadley, where he lives, in 2012.

Though LeClair and Lemanski were the only two finalists remaining after preliminary interviews in Agawam on March 21, the superintendent search began with a call for external as well as internal applicants. Initially, three other candidates were considered, all non-residents and non-employees of Agawam. One, the current superintendent in Hudson, Mass., failed to gain enough committee votes for the first round of interviews; one, a former elementary school principal, was dropped after a discrepancy was found in his resume; and the third, a current high school principal, was interviewed in March alongside LeClair and Lemanski but not selected as a finalist.



CLUES ACROSS
1. Hot meal
5. Razor clams
10. Blood-sucking African fly
12. Chauvinists
14. Windy City football player
16. An alternative
18. Federal Housing Administration
19. Styles hair
20. Arabic female name
22. Paddle
23. Area once separated from Germany
25. Marketplace
26. Gode Airport
27. Upset
28. Where wrestlers sweat
30. Garland
31. Robert __, poet
33. An iPad is one
35. Fruit of the oak tree
37. Della __, singer
38. Women's clothing retailer
40. Mailed
41. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
42. Pouch
44. Radioactivity unit
45. Month
48. Nanosecond
50. Domestic
52. What a boy becomes
53. Breezes (anc. Greek)
55. Jogged
56. At the stern
57. Lawrencium
58. Destructive to both sides
63. Arterias
65. Removes
66. Pretentious people
67. Tropical Asian plant

CLUES DOWN
1. Type of whale
2. Type of medication
3. Land of the free
4. Formed an opinion of
5. Logo
6. No (Scottish)
7. Leaves tissue
8. Sacred state to Muslims
9. Thus
10. African nation
11. Someone who has a stake in
13. Parties
15. Subsystem producers
17. Large, flightless birds
18. Compromises visibility
21. A ballet enthusiast
23. More (Spanish)
24. Skeletal muscle
27. Hands (Span.)
29. Weighed
32. Businessman
34. Famous clock Big __
35. Unkeyed
36. Break between words
39. Ink (slang)
40. Disappointed
43. Stroke
44. Curdled milk
46. Restaurants
47. Explosive
49. Type of terrier
51. Disfigure
54. Innermost cell layers
59. Bar bill
60. Distinct period of history
61. Mode of transportation
62. Equal (prefix)
64. Operating system

Public Safety

FIRE LOG

The Agawam Fire Department responded to 177 EMS calls from April 18 to May 1, and the following emergency response calls.

On April 18 at 1:05 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for smoke detector activation no fire — unintentional

On April 19 at 9:45 a.m., the department responded to Oxford Street for alarm system activation, no fire — unintentional.

On April 19 at 4:03 p.m., the department responded to Belden Court to assist invalid.

On April 19 at 4:07 p.m., the department responded to Robin Ridge Drive for smoke scare, odor of smoke.

On April 19 at 5:55 p.m., the department responded to Belden Court to assist invalid.

On April 19 at 10:39 p.m., the department responded to Hunt Street for unauthorized burning.

On April 20 at 4:42 p.m., the department responded to Paul Revere Drive to assist invalid.

On April 20 at 8:32 p.m., the department responded to North Street to assist police or other governmental agency.

On April 22 at 3:57 a.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for special type of incident, other.

On April 22 at 11:01 a.m., the department responded to North West Street for outside rubbish, trash or waste fire.

On April 22 at 12:43 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for lockout.

On April 22 at 5:55 p.m., the department responded to Juniper Ridge Drive for smoke detector activation due to malfunction.

On April 22 at 7:48 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for public service.

On April 22 at 9:35 p.m., the department responded to South Westfield Street for alarm system activation, no fire — unintentional.

On April 23 at 7:37 a.m., the department responded to Ridgeway Drive for lockout.

On April 23 at 7:50 a.m., the department responded to Southwick Street for smoke scare, odor of smoke.

On April 23 at 2:59 p.m., the department responded to Royal Street for smoke or odor removal.

On April 23 at 5:36 p.m., the department responded to William Street for public service.

On April 23 at 6:26 p.m., the department responded to Mill Street for alarm system sounded due to malfunction.

On April 24 at 1:35 a.m., the department responded to Sunnyslope Avenue for alarm system sounded due to malfunction.

On April 25 at 8:17 p.m., the department responded to South Bridge Drive for lockout.

On April 26 at 10:46 a.m., the department responded to Main Street, was dispatched and cancelled en route.

On April 26 at 3:28 p.m., the department responded to Seymour Avenue for citizen complaint.

On April 27 at 1:12 a.m., the department responded to South Street for motor vehicle accident with no injuries.

On April 27 at 8:10 a.m., the department responded to Suffield Street to assist invalid.

On April 27 at 12:31 p.m., the department responded to Raymond Circle, was dispatched and cancelled en route.

On April 27 at 12:52 p.m., the department responded to Cardinal Drive for alarm system activation, no fire — unintentional.

On April 27 at 4:40 p.m., the department responded to Southwick Street for public service assistance, other.

On April 28 at 8:37 a.m., the department responded to Barney Street for carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO.

On April 28 at 10:02 a.m., the department responded to Main Street to assist police or other governmental agency.

On April 28 at 3:25 p.m., the department responded to Garden Street for unauthorized burning.

On April 29 at 10 p.m., the department responded to River Road for motor vehicle accident with injuries.

On April 30 at 12:08 a.m., the department responded to Oak Lane for public service assistance, other.

On April 30 at 12:36 a.m., the department responded to Mansion Woods Drive to assist invalid.

On April 30 at 9:57 a.m., the department responded to Main Street with no incident found on arrival at dispatch address.

On April 30 at 11:25 a.m., the department responded to Haskel Street for CO detector activation due to malfunction.

On April 30 at 12:59 p.m., the department responded to North Westfield Street for motor vehicle accident with no injuries.

On April 30 at 5:03 p.m., the department responded to South Street for motor vehicle accident with no injuries.

On May 1 at 6:33 a.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for service call, other.

On May 1 at 9:48 a.m., the department responded to Springfield Street to assist invalid.

On May 1 at 12:42 p.m., the department responded to Plantation Drive for alarm system sounded due to malfunction.

On May 1 at 3 p.m., the department responded to Van Deene for fire, other.

On May 1 at 5 p.m., the department responded to Van Deene for fire, other

On May 1 at 7:55 p.m., the department responded to River Road for false alarm or false call, other.

On May 1 at 8:18 p.m., the department responded to Meadowbrook Manor for lockout.

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 696 calls for service from April 18 to May 1. The department recorded three arrests in its public log. All suspects are innocent unless proven guilty in court.

Sunday, April 23

Kevin Reynolds, 20, of Beverly Lane, Agawam, was arrested on charges of speeding, failing to stop for police, operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, and a marked lanes violation.

Tuesday, April 25

Steven Chenevert, 48, of no known address, was arrested on a charge of trespassing.

Friday, April 28

Shakira Marie Molinary, 19, of Woodmont St., Springfield, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear in court, and a charge of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

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Happy 60th Wedding Anniversary

Mario and Elsa Frare

You both are as beautiful now as you were then.

Thanks for showing us what FAMILY really means.

May 4, 1957

Love,
Your children and all your grandchildren.

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Youth

Former champ's younger brother among spelling bee winners

The GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club sponsored its 25th annual Town-Wide Spelling Bee for fourth-, fifth- and sixth-graders Friday, April 29, in the auditorium of the Roberta G. Doering School. Students competed within their grade level.

All final spellers were awarded certificates of participation. First place winners were awarded $50 cash, a ribbon, and a Scrabble game. Second place winners were awarded $25 cash, a ribbon and a Scrabble game. All cash prizes were donated by Westfield Bank. The spelling bee will air on the local access TV Channel 15 on Wednesday, May 10, at 7 p.m.

AJWC member Donna M. Shibley again moderated the event. The pronouncer was Kathy Mouneimneh, retired Agawam High School English teacher and AJWC member. Judges were Linda Sasso, retired Agawam High School Spanish teacher; Maureen Quinn, retired Agawam High School history teacher; and Joanne Brown, retired Agawam High School English teacher.

This year's winners were:

Grade 6: Nolan Chamberland, first place, Room 305, Doering School; Angela Kuzmenko, second place, Room 314, Doering School.

Grade 5: Noah Carra, first place, Room 105, Doering School; Mary Williams, second place, Room 204, Doering School.

Grade 4: Ryan Kenny, first place, Room 15, Robinson Park School; Ulani Guzman, second place, Room 6, Phelps School.

This year's sixth-grade first-place winner, Nolan Chamberland, has competed in the spelling bee in fourth, fifth and sixth grades. He won the spelling bee this year with the word "discontinue." On hand at the spelling bee this year to support and then congratulate his brother was Ian Chamberland, a student at Boston University who was the sixth-grade winner in 2008 with the word "forsythia."

The AJWC is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts, Junior Membership. New members are welcome. For more information, call Samantha at 413-335-4851 or visit www.agawamgfwc.com.

Nolan Chamberland, left, this year's grade 6 first place winner in the annual spelling bee, is congratulated by his brother, Ian, the grade 6 first place winner in 2008.

Madeline Lopez, center, branch manager at Westfield Bank, was on hand to congratulate the winners of this year's spelling bee sponsored by the Agawam Junior Women's Club. From left, Ryan Kenny, Ulani Guzman, Noah Carra, Lopez, Mary Williams, Nolan Chamberland and Angela Kuzmenko. SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Robotics team signups next Thursday evening

Agawam Robotics Education Association will host a registration session for all levels of robotics program for the 2017-18 school year Thursday, May 11, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St.

• FIRST Lego League Jr. is a program for students in kindergarten through grade 3 that reside in Agawam, which introduces the younger students to the exciting world of science and technology. This program features a real-world challenge to be solved by research, critical thinking and imagination. Guided by parent coaches, students work with Lego elements and moving parts to create solutions and present them for review. Registration fee for this program is $25 per student.

• FIRST Lego League is a program for Agawam's fourth- to sixth-grade students, which introduces them to real-world engineering challenges by building Lego-based robots to complete tasks on a thematic playing surface. FLL teams, guided by their imaginations and adult coaches, discover exciting career possibilities and, through the process, learn to make positive contributions to society. Registration fee for this program is $75 per student.

• FIRST Tech Challenge is geared toward Agawam students in seventh and eighth grades. Teams are responsible to develop strategy, designing and building robots based on sound engineering principles, then programming their robots to compete in an alliance format against other teams. Registration fee for this level is $100 per student.

For more information, visit www.firstinspires.org. Those with questions or unable to attend the signup session should contact Wendy Rua at mwrua@verizon.net.

Rennell fishing day open to kids for free

The sixth annual Bob "Who" Rennell Memorial Agawam Youth Fishing Day will take place Sunday, May 21, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the West Springfield Fish and Game Club, 329 Garden St., Feeding Hills.

The event, which is open to all Agawam and Feeding Hills youth 16 and under, as well as club members and their kids, is free of charge. Bait will be available at the clubhouse free of charge and no fishing license is required. Food and beverages will be available for purchase and free raffles for kids will be offered.

For more information, call 413-786-5925.

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AHS COUNSELING BULLETIN

Special interest programs

Springfield Technical Community College is offering a summer bridge program (STEM Starter Academy) for students interested in STEM-related careers. The program runs July 3 through Aug. 11, 8 a. m. to noon. Lunch is provided and student tutoring is optional. The students earn free college credits in math and college success. The students also receive a $600 stipend. The students will investigate STEM careers through our field trips and invited guest speakers. This is an excellent summer opportunity for our future students. Applications and details are available at stcc.edu/apply/stem.

The American Student Assistance College Planning Centers offer free assistance with completing financial aid applications, both in-person, at centers, and over the phone (877-332-4348). Additionally, the Boston College Planning Center is holding FAFSA workshops every Saturday from 10 to 11 a.m. and Federal Student Aid ID workshops every Tuesday from 6 to 7 p.m. More information is available from Kristi Pierce at 617-728-4608.

Springfield Technical Community College and Holyoke Community College are again offering the chance for current juniors and seniors to take up to one free course in each semester through the College Now program. This is a great way to earn college credits while in high school while trying courses that may be helpful in exploring a potential career interest. See your counselor for details.

Bryant University, in partnership with PricewaterhouseCoopers, one of the nation's top accounting firms, will host the PricewaterhouseCoopers Accounting Careers Leadership Institute from June 25-30. This is an exciting and educational week-long opportunity for Latino/a and African American or black high school rising seniors to learn more about the accounting profession and the key role accountants play in society. Except for transportation to and from the program, there is no fee to participate. Please see your counselor for more information.

Springfield College will host a Social Justice Summer Academy from June 26 to 29. Students will work in small learning communities exploring the concept of social justice through self-reflection, team building activities, organizing, self-expression, and critical thinking through a variety of discussions and projects. The cost of the program is $50 and more information is available at springfield.edu/summerprograms.

Scholarship information

Students should see their counselor or visit the websites for more information or an application. All scholarship information is available in Naviance. Under the "colleges" tab, students should look to the bottom of the screen for the "scholarship list" link. Please be sure to keep an eye on this page as new scholarships are posted on a regular basis: Ann and Tony Odierna Community Service Award; Henry David Thoreau Foundation; GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program; Walter S. Barr Scholarship; Westfield River Valley Marine Corps League Detachment 141 Scholarship; Pioneer Valley Chapter / Co-operative Credit Union Association; Journalism Foundation of New England Rebekah Assembly of Massachusetts; Berkshire Bank Foundation Scholarship; Pioneer Valley Chapter of the Massachusetts Credit Unions; Springfield Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts; Janice M. Scott Memorial Scholarship Fund; Robinson Park School PTO Barbara Skolnick Scholarship; Edward P. Boland Scholarship; Valley Press Club; Agawam High School PTSO; Agawam Golden Age Club; Arthur J. Leary Scholarship; Ray and Reita McCarroll Memorial Scholarship; Andrew Gallano Scholarship for the Arts; Charles H. Heyl Vocational/Technical Scholarship/Grant; GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club Scholarship; Mouneimneh Future Teacher Scholarship; Italian Cultural Center of Western Massachusetts; Agawam Lions Club; Stephen Phillips Memorial Scholarship Fund; Jewish Endowment Fund; James Peckham "Earning the Right" Scholarship; William J. Miller Scholarship; New England Association for College Admission Counseling Essay Contest; Holyoke Credit Union Scholarship; Ramapogue Historical Society's Rose Carpenali Award; American College Foundation Visionary Scholarship; William B. Menard Memorial Scholarship; Insurance Center of New England; B. Davis Scholarship; Kiwanis Club of West Springfield/Agawam; Aspiring Fashion Professional Scholarship; Aspiring Animation Professional Scholarship; Abbott & Fenner Business Consultants; Women's Golf Association of Massachusetts; Aspiring Nurse Scholarship; Aspiring Business Professional Scholarship; Michael Yasick ADHD Scholarship by Shireis; Clifford M. Granger PTO; Donald Charest Memorial Scholarship; Agawam High School Band Parents Association; Meadow Farms Fundraising Scholarship; Rovithis Realty Scholarships, Junior League of Greater Springfield, Emily K. Dushane Memorial Scholarship, Horatio Alger Association Career & Technical Scholarship Program.

Meritaid.com: On this free website, students can complete a profile and then access the college merit scholarships that match their profile. This organization does not sell its email lists to third parties. The site includes a comprehensive directory of merit scholarships and academic scholarships across the country.

School Lunch

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

The Agawam High School lunch menu is posted on the school's website.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL ROBERTA G. DOERING SCHOOL AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

All lunches served with fresh and chilled fruit.

Monday, May 8: Chicken tenders with dipping sauce, seasoned rice, carrots and dip.

Tuesday, May 9: Junior High and Elementary — French toast sticks, turkey sausage patty, hash brown, strawberries and cream. Doering — assorted calzones, fries, baby carrots with dip, cake.

Wednesday, May 10: Turkey breast, mashed potatoes with gravy, seasoned corn, dinner roll.

Thursday, May 11: Junior High — loaded nachos, ground beef, lettuce, tomato, cheese, salsa, black beans. Doering — French toast sticks, turkey sausage links, hash brown, strawberries and cream. Elementary — fish sticks, fries, baby carrots with dip, cake.

Friday, May 12: French bread pizza pizza, salad with light dressing, cookie.

AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ROBERTA DOERING SCHOOL AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL BREAKFAST MENU

Monday, May 8: Doering — Pancakes with syrup, cheese stick, assorted muffins, juice or milk. Elementary — Assorted low-sugar cereal, assorted Nutrigrain bars, cheese stick, assorted muffins, juice or milk

Tuesday, May 9: Assorted low-sugar cereal, assorted Nutrigrain bars, cheese stick, assorted muffins, juice or milk.

Wednesday, May 10: Doering — Assorted waffles with syrup, string cheese, fresh fruit, juice or milk. Elementary — Pancakes with syrup, cheese stick, assorted muffins, juice or milk.

Thursday, May 11: Assorted low-sugar cereal, assorted Nutrigrain bars, mozzarella cheese, assorted muffins, juice or milk.

Friday, May 12: Doering — Pancakes with syrup, cheese stick, assorted muffins, juice or milk. Assorted waffles with syrup, string cheese, fresh fruit, juice or milk. Elementary — Assorted waffles with syrup, string cheese, fresh fruit, juice or milk.

Phelps PTO Vendor Night

May 12 5:30-8:00 PM

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NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for the Agawam Advertiser News, please email mballway@turley.com.

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SPORTS

SOFTBALL

Brownies hitting their stride

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – The Agawam High School softball team has been picking up the speed as the move toward the middle of the season. The Brownies, which lost out of some games early in the season because of the weather, ended up with a busy week with four games in eight days.

But Agawam won all of them, thanks to some great offense, and good pitching that has carried them over the past two weeks to an 8-1 record.

On Monday, Agawam had one of its toughest challenges with a 3-1 win over host Ludlow.

The Brownies offense was a bit stifled against Ludlow pitcher Julia Annecchiarico. She had one of the best performances of her season when she limited Agawam to just four hits.

Errors hurt, though, as Agawam was able to take advantage of four Ludlow errors to score a couple of runs.

Maria Moccio had two hits, including a double, and one run scored. Gianna Boyle had a hit and a RBI. Pitcher Katie Grasso allowed one run on five hits and struck out six.

The Brownies also had two mercy-rule victories during the past week, coming on consecutive days.

The Agawam bats were hot on Wednesday and Thursday with 13-0 wins over Chicopee Com-

SOFTBALL I page 11

Pitcher Katie Grasso delivers a pitch to home plate in the third. Grasso allowed just three hits against Holyoke in a shutout win.

Samantha Saloio makes a play for the Brownies late in the game. PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

TRACK

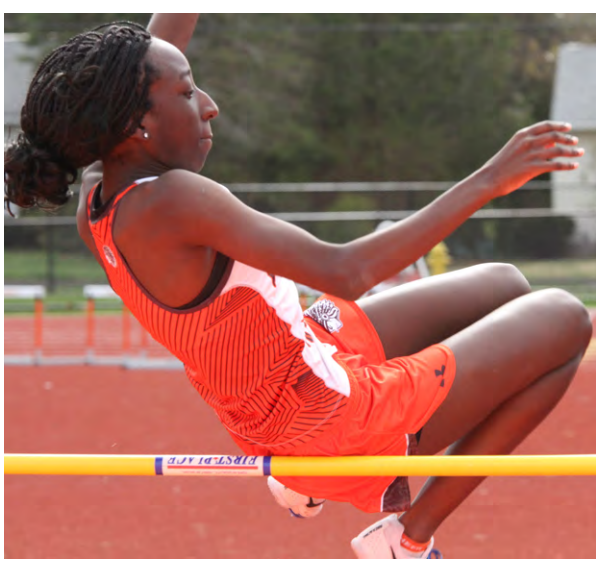
Hosts fall to Falcons at new facillity

AGAWAM – The Agawam High School boys and girls track teams have a brand new facility, and are enjoying every meet they have been able to host so far this season. Last Monday afternoon, it was depth that helped Minnechaug come in and take the win over Agawam 90-55 in girls track action. Minnechaug would win most of the events, though Agawam had some success in the field events.

Caroline Hitchcock, who has a successful track career, won the shotput and the 110 meter hurdles. She captured the hurdle win in 17.2 seconds. Her throw of 27 feet, 11.25 inches was the winner in the shotput. She also won the long jump with a leap of 18 feet, 1 inch.

Paige Hard would take the win in the javelin throw, with a win of 101 feet, 1 inch.

The meet saw the debut of the pole vault pit, which was one of the final items completed in the track project. Minnechaug's Bailey Tatro was the first pole vault winner with her leap of seven feet. Chaug's Heather Leckey took two events, the mile and two-mile.



Miranda Kamukala competes in the high jump event. PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Ally Dubiel tries to get over the first bar in the pole vault.

LACROSSE

Brownies eye tournament berth after eighth victory

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – If there is any team at Agawam High School that has its eye on a championship, it's the girls lacrosse team as they stand just one win away from qualifying for the tournament, and had an encouraging outing against a team that has historically struggled against.

Agawam is currently out to an 8-1 start. They have defeated two of the tougher teams in the region, Northampton and Minnechaug, in league matchups so far this season.

They played against Longmeadow, which has typically been a level above the competition for the past decade.

Usually, the Lancers are able to put a double-digit hurting on the normally strong Brownies, but Agawam worked hard and lost by a 9-4 score, holding the Lancers below double digits for the first time this season and for the first time head-to-head in several years.

Agawam still has one more matchup coming up against the Lancers in what could be a preview of a tournament matchup barring what Central Mass. teams enter the tournament.

During the past week, Agawam defeated Amherst on the road 14-3 and took down Northampton 11-5.

Against the Hurricanes last Thursday afternoon, the Brownies shut Amherst out of the first half, taking an 8-0 lead to the break as Amherst spent little time possessing the ball.

The Brownies would pepper the Amherst goal throughout, with Izzy Liquori, Emily Oliver, Taylor DeGeorge, and Nina Bruno all chipping it at various points.

Agawam did get the bench into the second half of the game, but still managed to outscore the Hurricanes starters 6-3.

Liquori, Oliver, DeGeorge, and Bruno all had hat trick for the Brownies, with Liqouri getting two assists for a five-point game. Hailey Lyne and Eliza Timms both scored as well. Sabrina Christie

LACROSSE I page 11

Sports

SOFTBALL | from page 10

prehensive and Holyoke.

Last Thursday, the Brownies would play Holyoke under the lights at John Roberts Field behind Holyoke High School.

Agawam took advantage of the struggling Knights as they got the shutout in just five innings.

Agawam sent 14 hitters to the plate in the top of the sixth inning. Agawam capitalized against Holyoke's young starting pitcher, Savanna Cruz, who has been pitching in place of normal starter Naomi Heredia. Heredia has been out for a few weeks with a concussion.

Nikki Bates got Agawam going with a single, and an error put Mckenzie Boyle on base as well. Grasso would single home a pair of runs, followed by another single from Mia Perella. Moccio would double, and Emily Fountain, who has been having an excellent season at the plate, singled home another run.

Bates, who started out the inning with a hit, got a triple in her second at-bat of the inning, clearing the bases. Boyle would get a single, and both would eventually come around to score to make it 12-0 after just two innings.

Agawam got its final run in the top of the fourth when Boyle reached on an error, and moved around on an error. Grasso singled home the run later in the inning.

Grasso also took care of things in the circle. She allowed just three hits in five innings and struck out seven.

Holyoke's Callie Cavanaugh had two of the three hits off Grasso. The Knights did not get a runner past second base.

Madison Dube makes contact on a pitch. PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Shortstop Gianna Boyle makes the long throw to first for an out.

Nikki Bates makes a throw from third base.

Sam Stratton fields a grounder.

LACROSSE | from page 10

was not challenged a lot during the game, but made five saves in getting the win.

Northampton, which is usually a playoff contender each year, was not able to make any major noise against Agawam's very good defense in the first matchup of the season between the two teams.

Agawam scored six times in the first half and had a 6-3 lead heading into the break. Northampton was never able to get within two goals of the lead and Agawam scored a very important league win as it heads toward the second half of the regular season.

Bruno had four goals while Liquori had three goals and three assists. Oliver had two goals. Timms and McKenzie Lyne each had single goals.

The Brownies were scheduled to face Longmeadow on the road earlier this week, and meet Minnechaug on May 4 in another key matchup. The second matchup against Northampton takes place on May 11.

People of All Ages
Read Newpapers

The Week Ahead

Key Game

Thursday, May 4
Girls Lacrosse
Agawam at Minnechaug 5:30 p.m.
The two teams meet for the second time this season in a potential playoff preview. Agawam took the first matchup.

Thursday, May 4
Boys Volleyball
Agawam at Ludlow 6 p.m.

Friday, May 5
Baseball
Central at Agawam 4 p.m.
Boys Lacrosse
South Hadley at Agawam 4 p.m.
Softball
Agawam at Chicopee 7 p.m.
Girls Tennis
Agawam at Chicopee 4 p.m.

Saturday, May 6
No games scheduled

Sunday, May 7
No games scheduled

Monday, May 8
Baseball
Agawam at Westfield 7 p.m.
Softball
Northampton at Agawam 4 p.m.
Girls Track
Ludlow at Agawam 4 p.m.

Tuesday, May 9
Boys Lacrosse
West Springfield at Agawam 4 p.m.
Boys Track
Agawam at Chicopee Comprehensive 4 p.m.
Boys Tennis
Agawam at East Longmeadow 4 p.m.
Girls Tennis
Northampton at Agawam 4 p.m.

Wednesday, May 10
Baseball
Agawam at East Longmeadow 4 p.m.
Softball
Agawam at Belchertown 4 p.m.
Boys Tennis
Agawam at Amherst 4 p.m.
Boys Volleyball
Belchertown at Agawam 5 p.m.

Last week's scores

Wednesday, April 26
Softball
Agawam 13, Chicopee Comp. 0
Girls Lacrosse
Agawam 11, Northampton 5
Boys Track
Central 74, Agawam 60
Boys Volleyball
Agawam 3, East Longmeadow 0

Thursday, April 27
Baseball
East Longmeadow 11, Agawam 0
Softball
Agawam 13, Holyoke 0
Boys Lacrosse
Northampton 6, Agawam 4
Girls Lacrosse
Agawam 14, Amherst 3
Boys Tennis
South Hadley 3, Agawam 2
Girls Tennis
Agawam 4, Holyoke 1

Monday, May 1
Baseball
Pope Francis 14, Agawam 1
Softball
Agawam 3, Ludlow 1
Boys Lacrosse
Minnechaug 12, Agawam 5
Girls Lacrosse
Agawam at Belchertown, n
Girls Tennis
Agawam 4, Pope Francis 1

Girls lacrosse game honors LaMotte

AGAWAM – The Agawam High School girls lacrosse team will face Northampton on Thursday, May 11 at 5:30 p.m. with the junior varsity game at 4 p.m. The game will be Agawam's "Pink & Purple Game" to raise money for Lisa's Light of Hope in honor of Deborah LaMotte. There will be a balloon release head at 5:15 p.m. prior to the varsity game, and suggested donations are $5 for adults, $3 for seniors and students, and $1 for junior high students. The Agawam Girls Lacrosse Booster Club hopes the community will come out and support the team and the charity.

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SIMPLY BRING YOUR ITEMS IN FOR A FREE EVALUATION AND OR CASH OFFER!
THURSDAY - SUNDAY
10:00 - 5:00
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WE TAKE IT ALL
WE LOAD IT ALL
Lowest Rates,
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10% disc. with this ad.
All Major CC's
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FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
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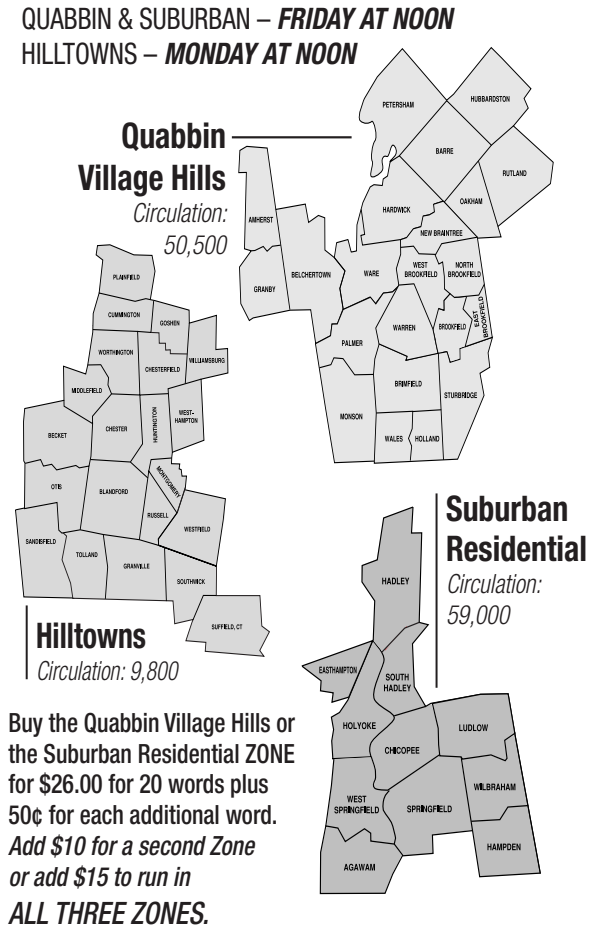
DEADLINES: QUABBIN & SUBURBAN – ***FRIDAY AT NOON***
HILLTOWNS – ***MONDAY AT NOON***

CATEGORY:

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Base Price $26.00
21 Base Price $26.50	22 Base Price $27.00	23 Base Price $27.50	24 Base Price $28.00
25 Base Price $28.50	26 Base Price $29.00	27 Base Price $29.50	28 Base Price $30.00
29 Base Price $30.50	30 Base Price $31.00	31 Base Price $31.50	32 Base Price $32.00
33 Base Price $32.50	34 Base Price $33.00	35 Base Price $33.50	36 Base Price $34.00
37 Base Price $34.50	38 Base Price $35.00	39 Base Price $35.50	40 Base Price $36.00



Buy the Quabbin Village Hills or the Suburban Residential ZONE for $26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word.
Add $10 for a second Zone or add $15 to run in ALL THREE ZONES.

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Number of Weeks: _____ X per week rate = $ _____
Credit Card: ❑ MasterCard ❑ VISA ❑ Discover ❑ Cash ❑ Check# _____
Card #: _____
Amount of charge: _____ Date: _____

First ZONE base price _____ *Includes additional words*
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Subtotal _____
x Number of Weeks _____
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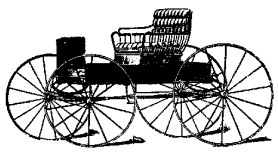

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Chimney repair, tile work, stucco,
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Spring Clean-ups
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Mulch/ Stone
Senior Citizen/ Veteran's Discount
Certified/ Insured
Call Dave **(413)478-4212** for your free estimate.

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Family run
affordable weekly lawn
maintenance
Shrub installation, removals
and trimming
paver patios, walkways,
retaining walls, lawn installation
and more
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Spring Clean-ups
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Over 30 yrs. in business
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TIRED OF DOING the work yourself? Hire someone else to do it for you. I offer the following services: Mulch/ Bed Maintenance, Weekly Lawn Mowing, Lawn Repair, De-thatching, Seeding/Aeration, Hedge Trimming, Spring/ Fall Clean-up. Fully Insured. Reasonable Rates. 10% Discounts for Senior Citizens and Veterans. Free Estimates. Call me at **413-297-7082** Jim

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TRACTOR FOR HIRE
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SCREENED LOAM
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*1-5 yd loads also available
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Our liners are top quality
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May 9th, 2017 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
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FULL TIME, PART TIME AND RELIEF

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Required Qualifications:
Minimum 18 years of age
Valid Driver's License
High School Diploma or equivalent
Acceptable CORI and driving record

Pathlight offers employees competitive pay rates $12hr – $13.88hr and excellent benefit packages.
No experience required,
we will train the right candidate.

Classifieds

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HELP WANTED

ELDERCARE ASSISTANT, SOUTH HADLEY Overnight care for an alert 100 year old including helping her get in and out of bed. Caring individual. Previous experience a plus **(860)604-2138**

FOOD CONCESSION SEEKS grill and kitchen support staff 2-3 days. Brimfield Antique week May 8-14. email realm4712@aol.com for more information.

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Provide a safe home for children and teens who have been abused or neglected. Now offering a $1,000 Sign-On Bonus
Call Devereux Therapeutic Foster Care
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LABORER. CONSTRUCTION COMPANY looking for unskilled and skilled Laborer. Day travel to job sites provided. Union and Non-union wages. Drivers License required. BENEFITS AVAILABLE. We are an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex or national origin. Call **413-267-4050.**

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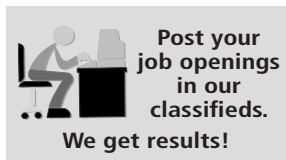
BE YOUR OWN BOSS! Business opportunity in South Hadley for Hair Dresser or Barber's Shop. Great location. Ample Free parking. Serious inquiries ONLY! Call **413-222-9650.** Leave msg.



SULLIVAN & SULLIVAN AUCTIONEERS • LLC
MA Lic. #107

CITY OF HOLYOKE
PUBLIC AUCTION
Wednesday, May 24 at 6 PM
Holyoke Senior Center - 291 Pine St
Registration begins at 4:30 PM

23 CITY-OWNED PROPERTIES ON THE AUCTION BLOCK:

RESIDENTIAL – OPEN HOUSES
May 20: 10 AM – 12 PM
20 Arthur St - Single Family
33 Arthur St - Single Family
9 Beacon Ave - 2 Family
10 Cottage Ave - Single Family
229 Beech St - Single Family
May 20: 12:30 – 2:30 PM
47 Chapin St - 2 Family
62 Clemente St - 2 Family
101 Newton St- 2BR Row House
123 Pine St - 8-Unit Apt. Bldg.

Residential – No Open House
115 Newton St - Row House
28 Cabot St - 6-Unit Apt. Bldg.
136 Cabot St - 3BR Row House

11 Vacant Lots**
Arthur St (Parcel 117-00-051)
Bray Park Dr (158-00-035)
Columbus Ave (126-00-031)
55 Hamilton St (028-03-006)
74 Hampshire St (004-02-010)
277 Main St (030-08-002)
Old Rock Valley Rd (183-00-006)
133 Pine St (062-03-005)
Walnut St (006-05-011)
307 Walnut St (004-06-005)
506 Maple St (Parcel ID 009-04-011)

*** Inventory subject to change.*

TERMS: $5,000 DEPOSIT for each house & $500 for each vacant lot by bank check payable to: City of Holyoke; 6% Buyer's premium.
Other terms announced at auction. Visit web or Call for auction information.

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Spencer: Antique colonial on 2+ acres. Lots of updates. $309,900.

Century 21 Toomey-Lovett
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If you want your home sold this year, call us for a free Market Analysis!!!

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development " HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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FOR RENT

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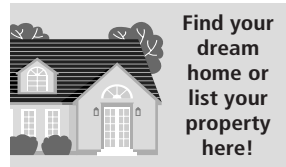
ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

PALMER 1 BR APT., 1 bath, 3 rooms. Stove, Refrigerator, parking for one car. No pets. 1st & last **(413)433-1856.**



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MOBILE HOMES

WALES- TWO BEDROOMS 14'x70', gas heat, new furnace, refitted bath, large eat-in kitchen, appliances, deck, nice corner lot $45,000. **(413)593-9961** DASAP.MHVILLAGE.COM

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A BEST CASH offer for any type of property, circumstance, condition or location. Ugly houses are OK. Fast closing. **(413)244-2807**

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LAKE WINNIPESAUKEE, WEIRS BEACH NH, Channel Waterfront Cottages-1,2,3+Queen Bedrooms, Kitchens, Beach, Air Conditioning, Free WiFi, Walk to Everything, Clean and Comfortable, Call Today **1-603-366-4673**, WWW.CHANNELCOTTAGES.COM

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Legals

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD17P0794EA
Estate of:
Wayne Jacob Dean
Date of Death: 12/19/2015
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Sandra L Dean** of Agawam, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Sandra L Dean** of Agawam, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **an unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/23/2017**.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion,** First Justice of this Court.

Date: April 25, 2017

Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
05/04/17

Legal Ad
AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, May 11, 2017 at 6:00 PM** at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of Labun for work to be performed on 531 River Road, subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of
Henry A. Kozloski,
Chairman
AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
05/04/17

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD16P1802GD
In the interests of:
James Sebolt
Of: Agawam, MA
RESPONDENT
Incapacitated Person/ Protected Person
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE POWERS OF A GUARDIAN

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Country Estates of Agawam** of Agawam, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court:

Expand the powers of a Guardian of the Respondent.

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of **05/23/2017**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: April 25, 2017

Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
05/04/17

HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the *Agawam Advertiser News* should be sent directly to notices@turley.com. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Jamie Joslyn directly at 413-283-8393 x216.

Turley Publications, Inc. publishes 15 weekly newspapers throughout Western Massachusetts.

Visit www.turley.com for more information.

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote free events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@turley.com, fax to 413-786-8457, or mail to Turley Publications, 380 Union St., West Springfield, MA 01089. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

Friday, May 5

SUSAN B. ANTHONY PORTRAYAL at 7 p.m. in the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., Agawam. Sally Matson presents a one-woman portrayal of the 19th century abolitionist and activist for women's suffrage. Free. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. For more information, visit www.agawamcc.org.

CONCERT FOR A CURE, 7 to 10 p.m. at the Agawam American Legion, 478 Springfield St. Feeding Hills. All ages welcome. $10 donation to benefit the American Cancer Society's Agawam Relay for Life. Sponsored by Team Clark and Fitness Fighters. Complimentary snacks, cash bar, and a 50/50 raffle. For information or tickets, contact Robyn at 413-733-0946 or wayrynen68@comcast.net.

Saturday, May 6

KITES 4 KYLIE fundraising event to help raise funds for Kylie Anne Kularski, an Agawam child with disabilities, from noon to 4 p.m. at School Street Park, 418 Corey St., Agawam.

RECEPTION WITH ARTIST BARBARA M. CONIBEAR on the opening of her exhibit at the Phelps-Hatheway House and Garden, 55 S. Main St., Suffield. From 1 to 2 p.m. Free to the public.

DERBY DAY FOR THE RELAY fundraiser, 4:30-7 p.m. at Murphy's Pub, 664 Suffield St., Agawam. Food, drinks, raffle and "bet" tickets for sale to benefit the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life of Agawam. Pre-race and race coverage of the Kentucky Derby on big-screen TVs.

SCRAPPY FLOWER WORKSHOP at 10:30 a.m. at the Southwick Public Library, 95 Feeding Hills Road. All materials provided. To register, call 413-569-1221, ext. 2 or visit the library.

LOCAL AWARD-WINNING CHILDREN'S BOOK AUTHOR R. W. THOMPSON will be at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. from 2 to 4 p.m. He will be reading from some of his books and will have four of his children's books for sale at the event. Cash or checks only will be accepted.

Sunday, May 7

CALLING ALL DOG LOVERS book signing and informational event at Dave's Soda and Pet City, 151 Springfield St., Agawam from 12:30 to 2 p.m. Melissa Fay Greene, author of "The Underdogs" will be the featured guest. Free family event.

Tuesday, May 9

THE AGAWAM GARDEN CLUB will meet at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. at 6:30 p.m. followed by a presentation by guest speaker Bob Whitney, at 7 p.m. A flower arrangement created by Whitney will be raffled off. All are welcome.

Wednesday, May 10

CEIL ROSSI OF THE CAREFREE GOURD GALLERY will be the demonstrator for the Agawam Community Artist and Artisans at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. All are welcome.

LOCAL JOBS FOR LOCAL PEOPLE job fair from 3 to 7 p.m. at Crestview Country Club, 281 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam. Sponsored by the town of Agawam and the West of the River Chamber of Commerce.

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam offers an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper at a cost of $8 for adults, $4 for children. The public is welcome.

A PROGRAM ON ALL-INCLUSIVE CARE FOR THE ELDERLY, at 5:30 p.m. sponsored by Faith Community Nursing, to be held at Bethany Assembly of God, 580 Main St., Agawam. Register at 413-789-2930 or visit www.bethany-ag.org.

Thursday, May 11

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present "American Vistas: From the Hudson River to Uncharted Territories" featuring Robin Hoffman and Jodi Stiffelman, co-founders of ArtScapades, at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts, at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is $4 ($2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

Friday, May 12

NIGHT OUT FOR A CAUSE hosted by Heritage Hall Campus in Agawam from 6 to 11 p.m. at the Elks Club, 250 Whitney Ave., Holyoke. Proceeds to benefit the Alzheimer's Association of Western Mass. Tickets are $20 per person and may be purchased in any of the five buildings at the Heritage Hall Campus. For more information, call 413-333-2251 or email Melinda.monasterski@genesishcc.com.

Saturday, May 13

TAG, BAKE AND PLANT SALE hosted by St. Martha's Guild at Sacred Heart Church Parish Center, 1065 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. A light breakfast and lunch menu will be available at the event.

YACHT CLUB OPEN HOUSE, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Springfield Yacht and Canoe Club, 1210 River Road, Agawam. Tag sale, historical displays and children's activities will be available, along with club tours and membership information.

SALMON BROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY, 208 Salmon Brook St., Granby, will hold its Spring Flea Market from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., rain or shine.

Tuesday, May 16

THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL will meet at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. The meeting is open to the public. There is no cost to join or serve.

Thursday, May 18

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present "Arms and Artists: The American Revolution through Painters' Eyes" featuring Paul Staiti, PhD, professor of fine arts, Mount Holyoke College, at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts, at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is $4 ($2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

Friday, May 19

RELAY FOR LIFE OF AGAWAM will take place from 6 p.m. today to tomorrow at noon at School Street Park. Teams of people walk all through the night to symbolize that cancer never sleeps. All proceeds to the American Cancer Society. To register, visit www.relayforlife.org/agawamma.

Sunday, May 21

The WEST SPRINGFIELD FISH LADDER OPEN HOUSE from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. free to the public. Parking available in the former Southworth Paper Company parking lot at 150 Front St., West Springfield. For more information, visit www.westfieldriver.org or call Bill Rose at 413-786-0195.

NAMI OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS ANNUAL WALKATHON, "A Journey of Hope and Recovery" at Stanley Park's Beveridge Pavilion Annex, Westfield, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. For information call 413-786-9139 or visit www.namiwm.org for entry and sponsorship forms. Volunteers needed.

Agawam Senior Center

Lunch Menu

Monday, May 8: Stuffed shells and chicken meatballs, homemade tomato sauce, Caesar salad, fresh apple.
Tuesday, May 9: Cheeseburger on a bun, lettuce and tomato, veggie pasta salad, pudding.
Wednesday, May 10: Pizza supreme, spring salad, pineapple.
Thursday, May 11: Baked fish Florentine, scalloped potatoes, peas and carrots, pears.
Friday, May 12: Mother's Day luncheon — chicken cordon bleu, mashed potato and gravy, stuffed squash, graham cracker cake ($6).

Calendar of Events

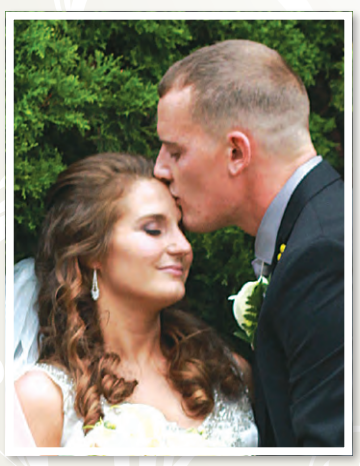
Monday, May 8: SHINE representative available (by appt.); 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9:30 a.m., line dancing; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., writing group, bingo; 1:30 p.m., seminar with John Dee; 5:30 p.m., Zumba.
Tuesday, May 9: 9 a.m., Mother's Day plant sale, open knitting and sewing class, exercise; 10 a.m., chair exercise, Computer Club meets; noon, ladies only billiards; 12:30 p.m., mah jongg, movie; 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 2:30 p.m., chorus; 4:30 p.m., yoga; 6 p.m., beginner line dance; 6:30 p.m., Garden Club.
Wednesday, May 10: 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., scrabble, ballroom lessons; 1:30 p.m., Golden Agers Chapter 1 meeting; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.
Thursday, May 11: 9 a.m., exercise; 9:30 a.m., quilting; 10 a.m., line dancing; 10:30 a.m., Reiki available ($10); 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., pitch, open art, free blood pressure check; 2 p.m., Melody Band practice; 6:30 p.m., pitch.
Friday, May 12: 8 a.m., yoga; 9:15 a.m., Let's Paint; 10 a.m., six-week intro to meditation (conference room); 11:30 a.m., Mother's Day luncheon with music by Sandy Robinson ($6); noon, canasta; 1 p.m., pitch, cribbage; 6:30 p.m., line dance class.

Announce Your Recent Engagement or Wedding

IN THE SUMMER 2017 ISSUE OF THE

Bridal GUIDE

Send your photo and wedding date to:
BRIDAL GUIDE, Attention: Beth Baker, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069
or e-mail bbaker@turley.com and be sure to put Bridal Photo in subject line.
If you would like your photos returned please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.
Photo must be received by June 30, 2017.



Laura Bartusewich & Colin Joslyn
South Hadley
September 23, 2016

Please include this information with photo:

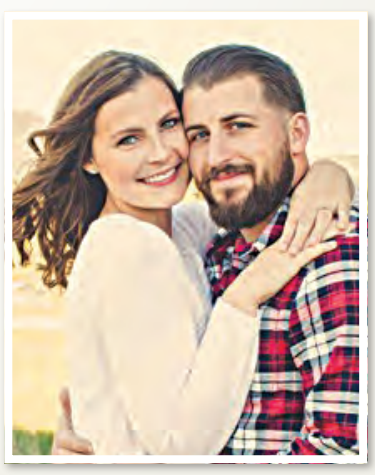
Name of Bride: _____

Bride's Residence: _____

Name of Groom: _____

Groom's Residence: _____

Date of Wedding: _____



Lauren Lewicki & Daniel Parker
Ludlow
October 7, 2017

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May events at Agawam Congregational Church

All are invited to attend the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St., "a place to call home — a people to call family." Worship service is at 10 a.m. Sundays, with a children's message, church school and fellowship and coffee hour following.

Playgroup meets on Thursday mornings, 9:30-11 a.m. It is open to the public. Cancellations and vacations follow the Agawam public school schedule.

Saturday, May 6: Ladies Tea, 1 p.m.

Sunday, May 7: Family Communion, 10 a.m., no church school, and coffee hour.

Monday, May 8: Prayer Shawl Ministry, 9 a.m.; Mom's Ministry, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 9: Mom2Mom, 9:30 a.mm.

Wednesday, May 10: Let Us Gather, 7 p.m.

Saturday, May 13: Men's Ministry, 8:30 a.m.

Sunday, May 14: Mother's Day. Worship service, 10 a.m., church school, coffee hour.

Monday, May 15: Prayer Shawl Ministry, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, May 17: Let Us Gather, 7 p.m.

Thursday, May 18: Choir, 7 p.m.

Sunday, May 21: Encounter, 8:30 a.m.; Worship service, 10 a.m., church school, coffee hour, Faithful Friends

Monday, May 22: Prayer Shawl Ministry, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, May 24: Let Us Gather, 7 p.m.

Sunday, May 28: Worship service, 10 a.m., church school, coffee hour.

Monday, May 29: Memorial Day. Office closed.

Tuesday, May 30: Parent Café, 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 31: Making it Real, 7 p.m.

Pastor Greg E. Dawson is available for prayer after each service. The church offers many programs, special family activities, trips, picnics and more. Newcomers are welcome and members of the community are invited to participate in all church events. For more information, call the church office at 413-786-7111, visit www.agawamcongregationalchurch.com or email office@agawamcong.com. Regular office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:35 a.m. to 12:35 p.m.

Dinner, music night to benefit Alzheimer's Association May 12

HOLYOKE — Heritage Hall of Agawam will host its second annual "Night Out for a Cause" Friday, May 12, from 6 to 11 p.m. at the Elks Club, 250 Whitney Ave., Holyoke.

Proceeds will benefit the Alzheimer's Association of Western Massachusetts. The event will include a buffet dinner, live band, cash bar and raffles. Tickets are $20 per person and may be purchased in any of the five buildings at Heritage Hall, an assisted living and rehabilitative care campus in Agawam. Entrances to the campus are at 462 Main St. and 55 Cooper St., Agawam.

For more information, call 413-333-2251 or email Melinda.monasterski@genesishcc.com.

'Passing Keys' to celebrate 50-year milestone at Agawam Congregational

On Sunday, May 14, after the 10 a.m. church service, Agawam Congregational Church members, families and friends will join and assemble in celebrating 50 years of "Passing the Keys" at 11 a.m. The event will take place on the front lawn to the sides of the cornerstone that was positioned in 1967 at the southwest corner of the sanctuary. It was on May 12, 1967, that the "Passing of the Keys" ceremony was held when Agawam Congregational Church officially came into being in its new and current surroundings at 745 Main St. Two four-foot ceremonial keys at next Sunday's event will commemorate that day 50 years ago. Following the ceremonial event and photograph, a special cake honoring the 50 years will be served in Bryan Hall for fellowship and sharing of memories. The Rev. Floyd Bryan, for whom the parish hall is named, was the pastor a half-century ago.

Donald Gaunt, the only remaining original member of the church building committee, and Raymond Orr, the only member of the original board of deacons, are both expected to attend. Gaunt was a pilot who regularly inspected the building's site progress from the air in his helicopter before returning to work for the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Co.

Certificates of appreciation and recognition will be presented to those who have been members through the five decades. Lawrence Andrews, whose father was instrumental in the church construction, may be in attendance to accept the certificate on behalf of his father. Others will be accepting on behalf of their families. While the church was being built during 1966, Sunday services were held for several months in the auditorium of Agawam's Benjamin Phelps School. Some marriages took place and Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Ladies Aide and the young Pilgrim Fellowship activities were held in the completed parish hall.

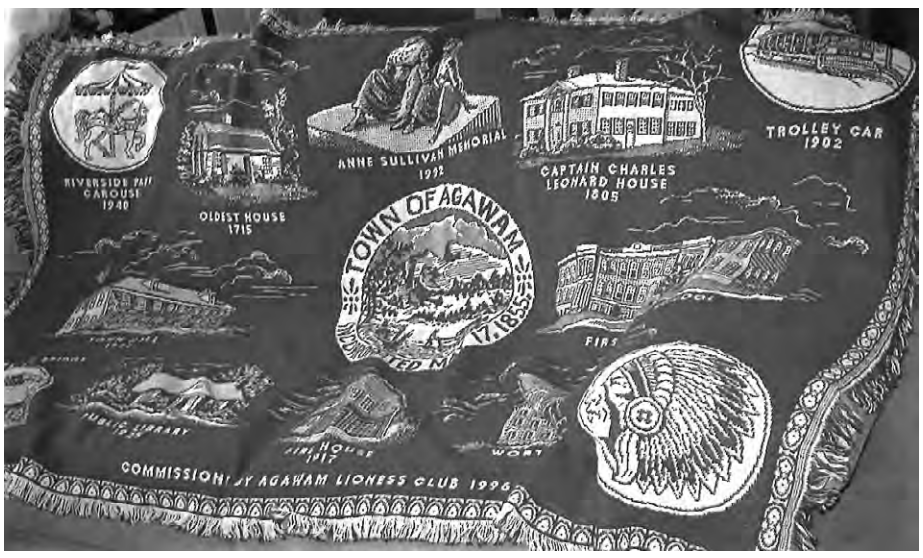
Stephen Steinbock is working on an Eagle Scout project to renovate the Army tank at American Legion Post 185. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Scout's project to preserve landmark memorial

The American Legion's iconic memorial in Agawam — an Army tank off Springfield Street — will get a facelift this month, tanks to a local Boy Scout.

Stephen Steinbock of Troop 82 is renovating the tank as an Eagle rank service project. On April 15, he held a pasta dinner at the Legion to raise funds for paint and materials. He plans to complete landscaping work around the tank sometime in May, followed by a day to paint and preserve the tank itself.

Steinbock, an eighth grader at Agawam Junior High School, selected the tank for his Eagle project because of his passion for the military and supporting veterans. In the past he has placed U.S. flags on Agawam veterans cemetery markers, and participated in Wreaths Across America every year, flag retirement ceremonies, the painting and preservation of the USS Joseph P. Kennedy in Fall River, Civil War Trust National Park Day, and the honoring of a local Civil War hero with a memorial marker. He plans to serve in the U.S. Navy after graduating from high school.



Lioness Club coverlets feature several iconic Agawam images. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Lioness Club offering coverlets for sale

The Agawam Lioness Club is offering historical coverlets which feature illustrations of various Agawam landmarks. Pictured on the coverlet are the Riverside Park Carousel (1940), the oldest home in Agawam built in 1715, the Anne Sullivan Memorial, Captain Leonard House, a trolley car built in early 1900s, Town Hall (1942), the town seal, the town's first high school (1922), a covered bridge (1845), the first library (1925), the 1917 firehouse, Worthy Paper Mill and the Indian head which has become the town symbol.

The coverlets are jacquard-woven, 100 percent cotton, machine-washable, color-fast, preshrunk and woven in the USA. They come in hunter green or navy and are $45 each. Proceeds go to the Lioness Club to help raise money for aiding the sight impaired.

For more information and to place an order, call Pat at 413-786-1782 or Rose at 413-786-5134.

Local authors sought for book-signing in June

The Agawam Public Library is looking for local authors who would like to participate in its sixth annual READLocal book-signing event to be held Monday, June 26, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. READLocal will be the kickoff event to the Adult Summer Reading Program.

The event will be held in Community Room and each author will have his or her own table on which to set up a display, network with other authors, greet readers and sell books. Throughout the event, authors will each have a few minutes with a microphone to speak about their books.

Interested authors must have published a book for adults and not have previously participated in an author event at the Agawam library. Book summary and contact information should be sent to Wendy McAnanama at wmcananama@agawamlibrary.org by May 13. Space is limited to 11 authors.

The library is at 750 Cooper St., Agawam.

Town awarded 'Age-Friendly' designation by AARP

The mayor announced this week that Agawam is the 161st community to enroll in the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities.

This designation means the town "…has committed to becoming more age-friendly under the criteria established by AARP and the World Health Organization and has been accepted as a member of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities," according to the certificate awarded to the town by AARP.

Mayor Richard Cohen said the program will prepare and help not only the aging population in the community, but everyone. The designation recognizes Agawam's commitment to walkable streets, better housing and transportation options, along with other age-friendly resources.

Agawam has also been designated a "Dementia-Friendly" community, largely due to its partnership with the dementia program at the Heritage Hall assisted-living community on Main Street.

Volunteers sought for 'BioBlitz' at Robinson State Park

Veronica Bobskill, a sophomore at Agawam High School, is organizing a BioBlitz, an event in which specialists, scientists and everyday people try to find as many species as possible in a given area, next month at Robinson State Park. Bobskill is asking residents to "save the date" Saturday, June 17, for the event, which will be sponsored by Matt Largess, of Largess Forestry Inc.

Participants will help document natural resources at the park, which will help the Department of Conservation and Recreation develop and update its management plans.

Bobskill is in need of volunteers to assist in looking for species, especially those with specialties in organisms. Some examples include trees, fungi, plants, birds, macroinvertebrates, insects, bats, fish, dragonflies and other animals, but volunteers do not need a specialty to help.

In addition to citizens and scientists who will search for and identify species, volunteers are also needed to help record and compile data.

"Our plan is to make the results of the BioBlitz available to DCR and all interested people," explained Bobskill. The headquarters for the BioBlitz will be the park pavilion in the day use area of the park. Plans for the event are to begin early in the morning of June 17, and possibly going until midnight for the documentation of bats and other nighttime creatures.

For more information or to volunteer, email rspbioblitz@gmail.com.